

To: Whitley, Christopher[Whitley.Christopher@epa.gov]
From: Carey, Curtis
Sent: Fri 3/21/2014 7:24:16 PM
Subject: Fw: Review: Desk Statement from Today's calls

From: Brooks, Karl
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 2:10:31 PM
To: Carey, Curtis
Cc: Tapia, Cecilia; Hague, Mark; Hammerschmidt, Ron
Subject: RE: Review: Desk Statement from Today's calls

Approved. Thanks.

From: Carey, Curtis
Sent: Friday, March 21, 2014 1:41 PM
To: Brooks, Karl
Cc: Tapia, Cecilia; Hague, Mark; Hammerschmidt, Ron
Subject: Review: Desk Statement from Today's calls

Karl,

For your review, here is a desk statement that we will issue in response to media inquiries today. We will also use this in the West Lake Update as the lead story Monday.

From Karl Brooks, Regional Administrator:

EPA Working with Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has an expression: "One Team, One Fight." That's a principle we live by when it comes to the West Lake Landfill Site. EPA, the St. Louis area Congressional delegation and the Missouri Attorney General are in agreement that this site requires a team of the best people. This is why I have been in discussions with the Army Corps to enlist their construction management expertise for the isolation barrier to separate the Radiologically Impacted Material from the subsurface smoldering event at Bridgeton Landfill. I'm hopeful construction on the isolation barrier can begin shortly.

Attorney General Chris Koster's letter highlights that shared commitment to protect public health, and we are working to ensure continued close collaboration at the site between the state and federal partners. The complementary regulatory authorities held by the State and EPA will continue to hold the responsible parties to their duties.

EPA's legal authority under Superfund provides the authority to compel the potentially responsible parties to take the actions that are required to protect public health. What's more, EPA has the responsibility to protect the public no matter where the RIM, resulting from the disposal of leached barium sulfate, may be located at the site.

We will continue to share new information on our progress as our plans come together.